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Terrorism Review

A 44 B		Page
Articles		1
		4
		5
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DI TR 97-008
August 1997

ecret		,	
9			
			\neg
			9
lighlights			15
			
			16
			17
			17
			18

The Terrorism Diary for September and October 23

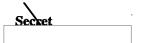
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Colombia: Paramilitaries Adopting Terrorist Tactics



Chronology of International Terrorism	25
 Summary of Indigenous Terrorism—July 1997	29
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Center. Comments and queries are welcome and may be direct	

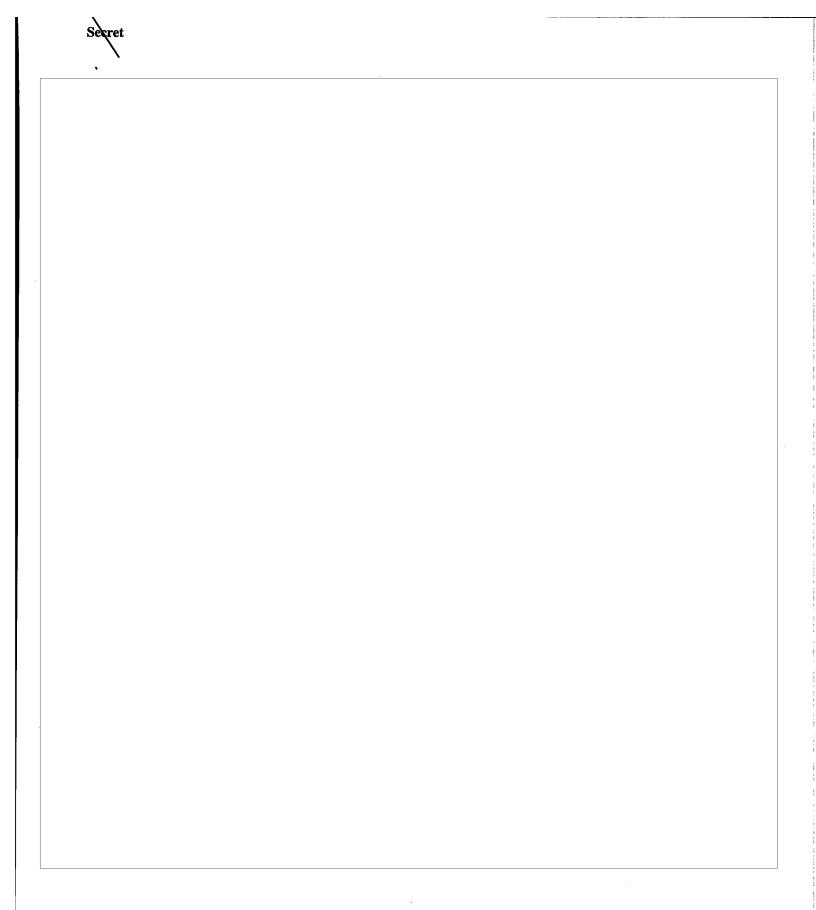
Information available as of 22 August 1997 was used in this report.



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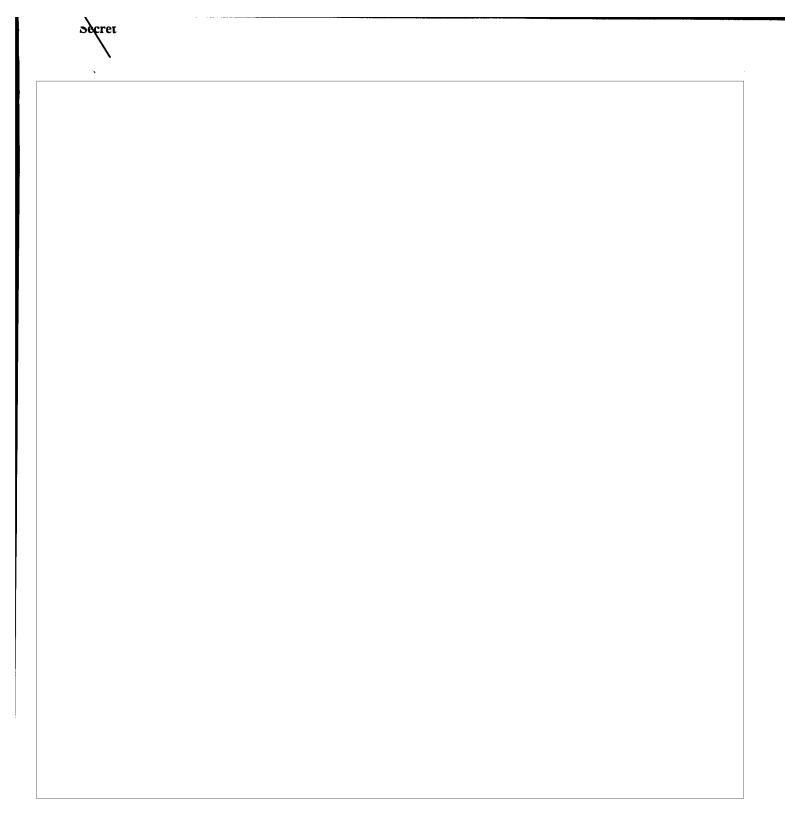
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Highlights



Colombia



Paramilitaries Adopting Terrorist Tactics

Colombia's right-wing paramilitary groups—private militias that carry out assassinations and massacres targeting leftist guerrillas and alleged sympathizers—have intensified their violent activities in recent months. Carlos Castano's notorious Peasant Self-Defense Group of Cordoba and Uraba (ACCU), which operates throughout northwestern Colombia and the border regions of Panama, is the most active of these groups.

[The ACCU proba-

bly was responsible for the takeover of the village of Mapiripana, Colombia, in mid-July 1997 and the subsequent killing of several village residents. Other ACCU activities that month, including an attempted bombing in Bogota and a death threat against an international human rights delegation, suggest that the group also is beginning to adopt more traditional terrorist tactics:

- On 25 July, paramilitaries shot and killed a Bogota policeman who caught them
 planting a dynamite bomb at the headquarters of the Patriotic Union (UP), a
 political party associated with the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia
 (FARC), the country's largest guerrilla group. The ACCU repeatedly had threatened to dynamite the building, according to a UP leader.
- On 28 July, members of a delegation investigating reports of human rights abuses in Antioquia province were forced to cut short their mission after receiving a written bomb threat from the ACCU ordering them to leave the area within 12 hours. Two delegation members were employees of the UN High Commission for Human Rights, according to press

These incidents highlight the possibility that foreign citizens could become victims of expanding paramilitary violence, either as unintended casualties of attacks against domestic targets or as deliberate targets if paramilitary groups associate them with leftist guerrillas.

paramilitary groups together comprise 4,000 to 6,000 armed members, less than half the strength of their guerrilla adversaries. Paramilitaries receive most of their backing from large landowners and narcotraffickers who are threatened by guerrilla activities, but

groups enjoy the tacit support of some Colombian military commanders who are frustrated with the government's inability to keep the guerrillas in check.



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The Terrorism Diary for September and October

Below is a compendium of September and October dates of known or conceivable significance to terrorists around the world. Our inclusion of a date or event should not by itself be construed to suggest that we expect or anticipate a commemorative terrorist event.

1 September 1969	Libya. Coup overthrows monarchy.
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September 1970

Palestinians. During this month, the Jordanian Army drove the Palestinian guerrillas out of the country because they would not stop attacking Israel from Jordanian soil; in response, the largest group, Fatah, established the Black September Organization, best known for its attack on Israeli athletes at the 1972 Olympics.

3 September 1971 Qat	tar. Independence Day.
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3 September 1982 Peru. Death of Sendero Luminoso (SL) leader Edith Lagos.

4 September 1980 Iran, Iraq. Date Iraq charges Iran started war.

8 September 1982 India. Death of Shaykh Mohammad Abdullah, "the Lion of Kashmir."

10 September 1922 Turkey. Founding of Turkish Communist Party.

12 September 1992 Peru. Arrest of Sendero Luminoso leader Abimael Guzman.

14 September 1982 Lebanon. Assassination of Phalangist leader and Lebanese President-elect Bashir Gemayel.

15 September 1982 Lebanon. Israeli invasion of Muslim West Beirut.

17 September 1978 United States, Israel, Egypt. Signing of Camp David accords.

17 September 1982 Lebanon. Massacre in Shatila and Sabra refugee camps (17 September Organization takes its name from this event).

21 September 1989 Saudi Arabia. Execution of 16 Kuwaiti shias for hajj bombings that sparked anti-Saudi retaliatory attacks.

23 September 1932 Saudi Arabia. Unification of the kingdom.

23 September 1964 Saudi Arabia. National Day.

25 September 1984 Egypt, Jordan. Resumption of diplomatic relations.

27 September Spain. Basque National Party Day.



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28 September 1970	Egypt. Death of Jamal 'Abd al-Nasir.			
1 October 1985	Tunisia, Israel, Palestinians. Israeli bombing of PLO headquarters in Tunis.			
6 October 1973	Israel, Arab World. Arab-Israeli war begins.			
	Egypt. Armed Forces Day (commemorates October war with Israel).			
7 October 1930	Peru. Founding of the Communist Party of Peru, out of which Sendero Luminoso evolved.			
8 October 1967	Cuba. Heroic Guerrilla Day (death of Che Guevara in Bolivia).			
11 October 1997	Israel, Jewish World. Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement). Anniversary of 1973 Arab-Israeli war, according to the Hebrew calendar.			
12 October 1965	Chile. Movement of Revolutionary Left (MIR) founded.			
14 October 1985	Germany. Revolutionary Cells bomb economic targets to commemorate 1977 suicides of Andreas Baader and Gudrun Ensslin.			
21 October 1978	Japan. Beginning of construction of Narita airport (usually marked by 10 days of demonstrations).			
23 October 1983	Lebanon. Bombing of the US Marine barracks in Beirut.			
28 October 1983	Cyprus. Greek National Day (observed by Greek Cypriot community).			
29 October 1923	Turkey. Independence Day (proclamation of republic).			
29 October 1973	Cyprus. Turkish Republic Day (observed by Turkish Cypriot community).			
31 October 1984	India. Assassination of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi by her Sikh bodyguards, triggering anti-Sikh riots throughout northern India.			

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Chronology	of	International	Terrorism
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The following incidents were considered by the Intelligence Community's Incident Review Panel since publication of the previous issue of the Terrorism Review and were determined by the Panel to constitute international terrorism. Such incidents provide the basis for the State Department's Patterns of Global Terrorism, which is published annually as the US Government's official record of international terrorism

Secret DI TR 97-008 August 1997

Asia 22 April Cambodia: Khmer Rouge guerrillas attacked two trucks in the Barkeo district of Rotanah Kiri Province, killing three Vietnamese citizens and wounding six others 27 April Cambodia: Khmer Rouge guerrillas attacked Vietnamese fishermen and wood cutters in the Barkeo district of Rotana Kiri, killing nine persons and wounding 10 others. 31 May Cambodia: A bomb exploded at a Vietnamese War memorial in Preah Seihanu Province, causing damage but no injuries. No group claimed responsibility for the attack Eurasia 17 June Tajikistan: A gunman opened fire on two Russian CIS Collective Peacekeeping Force officers in Dushanbe, killing one and wounding the other. No one claimed responsibility for the attack Europe 15 June Greece: Unknown assailants threw Molotov cocktails at the Austrian Embassy in Athens, injuring a policeman and causing minor damage to two vehicles. Youth supporters of several anarchist groups are suspected.

22 June

Algeria: Unknown assailants killed a French woman in Bouzeguene and dumped her body in a well. No one claimed responsibility for the attack, but the Armed Islamic Group (GIA) is suspected

30 July

Israel: Two bombs detonated in the Mahane Yehuda market in Jerusalem, killing 16 persons, including two suspected suicide bombers, and wounding 168 others. A dual US-Israeli citizen was among the dead and two US citizens were wounded. The 'Izz Al-Din Al-Qassem Battalion, the military wing of the Islamic Resistance Movement (HAMAS), claimed responsibility for the attack

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	Summary of Indigenous Terrorism—July 1997
	This description of incidents and situations is not meant to be a detailed accounting of all domestic terrorist incidents, but rather to provide an overview of indigenous terrorism worldwide
Africa	
South Africa	A gasoline bomb exploded on 14 July in a residence-based Jewish book center in a Cape Town neighborhood where several US Consulate employees also reside. The blast caused damage but no injuries. No one claimed responsibility for the attack, but a previously unknown group, <i>Muslims Against Global Oppression</i> , had demonstrated in front of the vacant Israeli Embassy on 12 July
Asia	
India	On 1 July in Machareddy Village, Andhra Pradesh, <i>People's War Group</i> guerrillas detonated a land mine, killing four persons and injuring five others. The victims were in the last vehicle of a convoy carrying political activists to a party convention
	An explosion on 8 July destroyed a passenger train in Punjab, killing 34 persons and injuring 67 others. No group claimed responsibility, but Kashmiri or Sikh militants are suspected.
Japan	On 14 July a bomb exploded in the garage of a transport ministry official's home in Tokyo, causing damage but no injuries. No group claimed responsibility, but police suspect leftist radicals who oppose the expansion of the New Tokyo International Airport Authority
Sri Lanka	During the inauguration of a school building on 5 July in Trincomalee, suspected Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) guerrillas assassinated a Tamil member of parliament, also killing his body guard and four others, and injuring at least 15 persons in a grenade and firearms attack
	Also in Trincomalee, suspected LTTE gunmen ambushed a jeep on 20 July, killing a United National Party deputy, a police constable, a labor department employee, a school principal, the driver and his four-year-old son.
Europe	
Spain	On 9 July two bombs detonated at beaches along the Mediterranean coast of Lloret de Mar, causing minor damage but no injuries. A third device was found and destroyed by police. The Basque Fatherland and Liberty (ETA) is believed responsible

Secret
DI TR 97-008
August 1997

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	On 21 July unknown assailants launched two grenades at a police station in Oviedo. The projectiles fell short of their target, landing near another building and street, injuring one person, causing minor damage. Authorities suspect <i>ETA</i> involvement
	Arsonists set fire to a Basque National Party office in Elorrio on 25 July, causing extensive damage but no injuries. ETA members or sympathizers are suspected
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Turkey	On 8 July suspected Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) gunmen strafed a dormitory housing a gendarmerie team in Tokat, injuring two policemen and causing minor damage.
	The same day, unidentified gunmen ambushed a commercial minibus on 8 July in
	Ucpinar, killing four passengers and wounding 10 others. The PKK is suspected
	Unknown assailants opened fire on a truck on the Erzincan-Erzurum highway on 23 July, killing a 13-year-old girl and injuring her father. Authorities believe <i>PKK</i> militants are responsible.
United Kingdom	On 6 July an explosive device detonated in front of a police station in Belfast causing minor damage but no injuries. No one claimed responsibility.
	Assailants firebombed residences, meeting halls, vehicles, trains, and police stations throughout Northern Ireland between 6 and 8 July during rioting sparked by the government's decision to allow the Orange Order loyalist organization to conduct a parade through Catholic neighborhoods. Hundreds were reported injured and major damage was sustained in Belfast, Londonderry, Armagh, Newry, Portadown, Lurgan, and Dungannon. The <i>Irish Republican Army (IRA)</i> and other nationalist groups are suspected of inciting some of the violence
	On 11 July unidentified gunmen opened fire on a joint army and police security patrol in Belfast, injuring three soldiers and two policemen. The IRA is suspected.
·	Authorities deactivated a large bomb concealed inside a car next to a hotel in Lisbellaw, Northern Ireland, on 31 July. No one claimed responsibility, but authorities suspect the <i>Continuity Army Council (CAC)</i> , a group composed of former <i>IRA</i> members opposed to the multiparty peace talks

Laun America	
Colombia	On 4 July in Antioquia and Santander departments, Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) guerrillas set fire to 29 vehicles after forcing their occupants to vacate them
	FARC guerrillas attacked a police garrison and looted a bank in Piendamo on 25 July using plastic gel, grenades, and rifles.
Honduras	On 18 July unidentified assailants threw a bomb at a bank in Tegucigalpa, causing minor damage. No group claimed responsibility for the attack
Middle East	
Algeria	A bomb exploded in a cinema in Algiers on 9 July, killing one person and wounding 20 others. Authorities suspect the Armed Islamic Group (GIA).
	Militants attacked a bus in Dellys on 12 July, killing seven passengers and injuring 11 others. No one claimed responsibility for the attack
	Islamic extremists armed with axes and knives killed 33 villagers and abducted 21 young women in Fetha on 12 July. The GIA may be responsible.
Egypt	Al-Gama'at al-Islamiyya militants opened fire on a police vehicle in Al-Minya on 22 July, killing six policemen and injuring two civilians
West Bank	A bomb exploded on 9 July on a roadside near Nablus as a bus carrying Jewish seminary students passed by, injuring two Israeli policemen who were escorting the bus. No one claimed responsibility for the attack
	A bomb exploded in an apartment in Bethlehem on 14 July, killing a Palestinian youth. Authorities believe the victim was a HAMAS activist preparing a bomb that detonated prematurely.